

University professor Patricia Reiff and team coach Franklyn Pacheco—fielded a team to compete in this year's International Astronomy Olympiad in Piatra Neamt, Romania.

Jack's tenacity and dedication to making his goals a reality show his incredible character and spirit. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, he makes our Katy community very proud.

HONORING TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MANAGER CASEY HASHIMOTO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor outgoing Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Manager Casey Hashimoto. In his three decades with the district, Mr. Hashimoto has been a consummate professional whose dedication and determination has positively benefited the people and businesses served by TID.

Since beginning his tenure as General Manager in 2010, Mr. Hashimoto has been instrumental in keeping electricity rates some of the lowest in California while also improving the reliability of TID's water and electrical systems. During his time with as General Manager, Mr. Hashimoto has overseen efforts such as design and construction the Hughson-Grayson high voltage transmission line and TID's new state-of-the-art Power Control Center, both of which have helped TID improve their energy efficiency and adapt to the demands of the changing Western energy markets.

Most notably, Mr. Hashimoto has worked tirelessly on the Don Pedro Hydroelectric Project, having led efforts on the complex and complicated relicensing of the 203-megawatt Don Pedro dam, reservoir, and powerhouse. Mr. Hashimoto and his team oversaw a multi-million-dollar extension and upgrade to the Don Pedro Project while continuing to work with numerous stakeholders, federal agencies, tribes, scientists, and recreational outfitters to ensure this project remained a vital resource of the San Joaquin Valley for generations to come.

In addition to his work for TID, Mr. Hashimoto has been active in many influential utility industry organizations, including the California Municipal Utilities Association, the Norwest Power Pool, the Association of California Water Agencies, and the American Public Power Association. It is evident that his accomplishments and industry expertise will continue to make positive impacts in our Valley and the water and power industry long after Mr. Hashimoto's retirements.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring a man whose professionalism and determination has benefited many of the water and power users of California's San Joaquin Valley. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Casey Hashimoto as he retires from his role as General Manager of Turlock Irrigation District. I wish Casey and his family the best as he embarks on this new phase of life.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT THROUGH A NEGOTIATED TWO-STATE SOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I will vote in support of H. Res. 326, a non-binding resolution reiterating the U.S. House of Representatives' support for long-standing U.S. policy to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution.

I have consistently supported a two-state solution throughout my time in Congress. While there is no perfect solution to this complex and heated conflict, I believe a negotiated two-state solution between Israeli and Palestinian leaders is a viable framework to achieve security, peace, and address the legitimate needs of both peoples.

Furthermore, I am pleased that H. Res. 326 condemns actions by the Trump administration and the Israeli government under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu which have severely undermined the possibility of a two-state solution.

For example, H. Res. 326 puts the House of Representatives on the record as opposing unilateral annexation of territory. This is an important rebuke of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's disturbing announcement that he plans to annex large swathes of the occupied Palestinian territories, a move that I strongly oppose.

Additionally, I am opposed to President Trump's decision to discontinue bilateral assistance to the Palestinians and U.S. contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). That's why I am pleased H. Res. 326 states that "it is in the United States' interest to continue promoting the security, stability, and humanitarian well-being of Palestinians and their neighbors by resuming the provision of foreign assistance pursuant to United States law."

I am also pleased this resolution opposes the Trump administration's continued greenlighting of Israeli settlement expansion in the West Bank. This declaration is especially timely given the Trump administration's recent outrageous reversal of the decades-long U.S. position that Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories are against international law. I also joined my colleagues in signing a letter condemning President Trump's reversal.

However, while I support this resolution, I believe it should have gone further to address additional actions by the Trump administration and the Netanyahu government which have severely undermined a two-state solution.

For example, H. Res. 326 fails to condemn the Trump administration's decision to recognize the city of Jerusalem as the Israeli capital and to relocate the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, and it fails to denounce the Netanyahu government's continued human rights abuses, including demolition of Palestinian homes and villages, military detention of Palestinian children, and more. Protecting human rights, re-

gardless of any ongoing tension between Israelis and Palestinians, should be a fundamental American value.

Additionally, the original text of H. Res. 326—which I cosponsored—included a call for an "end to the occupation" of Palestinian territory. Unfortunately, this language was removed from the final version brought to the floor.

As an ally of Israel, the United States invests more than \$3 billion in aid to Israel annually, and H. Res. 326 reiterates U.S. support for this aid. Accordingly, I believe it is only appropriate that lawmakers voice their legitimate concerns with Israeli policies in a constructive way, as I have done throughout my time in Congress and will continue to do.

Unfortunately, recent rhetoric over U.S.-Israeli relations and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has devolved into a divisive—and even partisan—war of words. It is only through thoughtful, respectful, nuanced debate that Congress can productively contribute towards resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and addressing the legitimate needs of both peoples. The bottom line is it is critical that the U.S. pursue policies that will move Israelis and Palestinians towards a negotiated, two-state solution, and I will continue to push the Trump administration and Congress to do so.

HONORING MS. KIMMI LEWIS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2019

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of Colorado State Representative Kimmi Lewis of Las Animas, Colorado.

Kimmi was proud to serve her community in the Colorado House of Representatives, having represented the 64th district from 2016 until her passing on December 6, 2019. In this role, Kimmi was a champion for Colorado's farmers and ranchers, advocating for their needs and priorities as a member of the Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee. She will be remembered as a treasured member of the community who worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Coloradans.

Beyond her service in the state legislature, Kimmi served as the President of the Trinidad/Las Animas County Republican Women's Club for the past thirty years. In 2007, she received the La Junta Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Award for her efforts to prevent the expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, and in 2009, she received the Southern Colorado Livestock Association Cattlewoman of the Year award in honor of her "dedication and lifetime commitment to our industry, community and our country."

Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Rep. Kimmi Lewis for all her contributions in service of Eastern Colorado and recognize the profound legacy that she leaves behind. It is an honor to celebrate her impact on our community and state.